

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
IPC 7 A01K29/00 A01K15/02

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A01K G06F G10L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

WPI Data, PAJ, EPO-Internal

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5 818 354 A (GENTRY TIMOTHY G) 6 October 1998 (1998-10-06) abstract ---	1,2,4,7, 8
Y	GB 2 350 263 A (LEIGHTON BERNARD) 22 November 2000 (2000-11-22) abstract; claims 1,4,5; figure page 2, line 3 - line 20 ---	1,2,4,7, 8
Y	EP 0 730 261 A (SEIKO EPSON CORP) 4 September 1996 (1996-09-04) abstract; figures 1,4,6 page 9, column 15, line 47 -page 10, column 17, line 5 page 11, column 19, line 21 - line 35 --- -/--	1,2,4,7, 8

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

## \* Special categories of cited documents:

- \*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
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- \* & \* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

28 May 2002

Date of mailing of the international search report

06/06/2002

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## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5 749 324 A (MOORE STEVEN JEROME) 12 May 1998 (1998-05-12) column 5, line 54 -column 7, line 30 abstract; figures 1,2 ---	2,4
Y	US 6 254 536 B1 (DEVITO DREW) 3 July 2001 (2001-07-03) abstract ---	8
A	WO 02 15678 A (TEMCO JAPAN ;TAKEDA TAKESHI (JP)) 28 February 2002 (2002-02-28) abstract ---	1
A	EP 0 813 186 A (YAMAMOTO MASAOMI) 17 December 1997 (1997-12-17) the whole document ---	1
A	US 4 967 696 A (TOBIAS SAMUEL) 6 November 1990 (1990-11-06) abstract -----	1

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/IT 02/00183

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GB 2350263	A	22-11-2000	NONE	
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			JP 8297498 A	12-11-1996
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